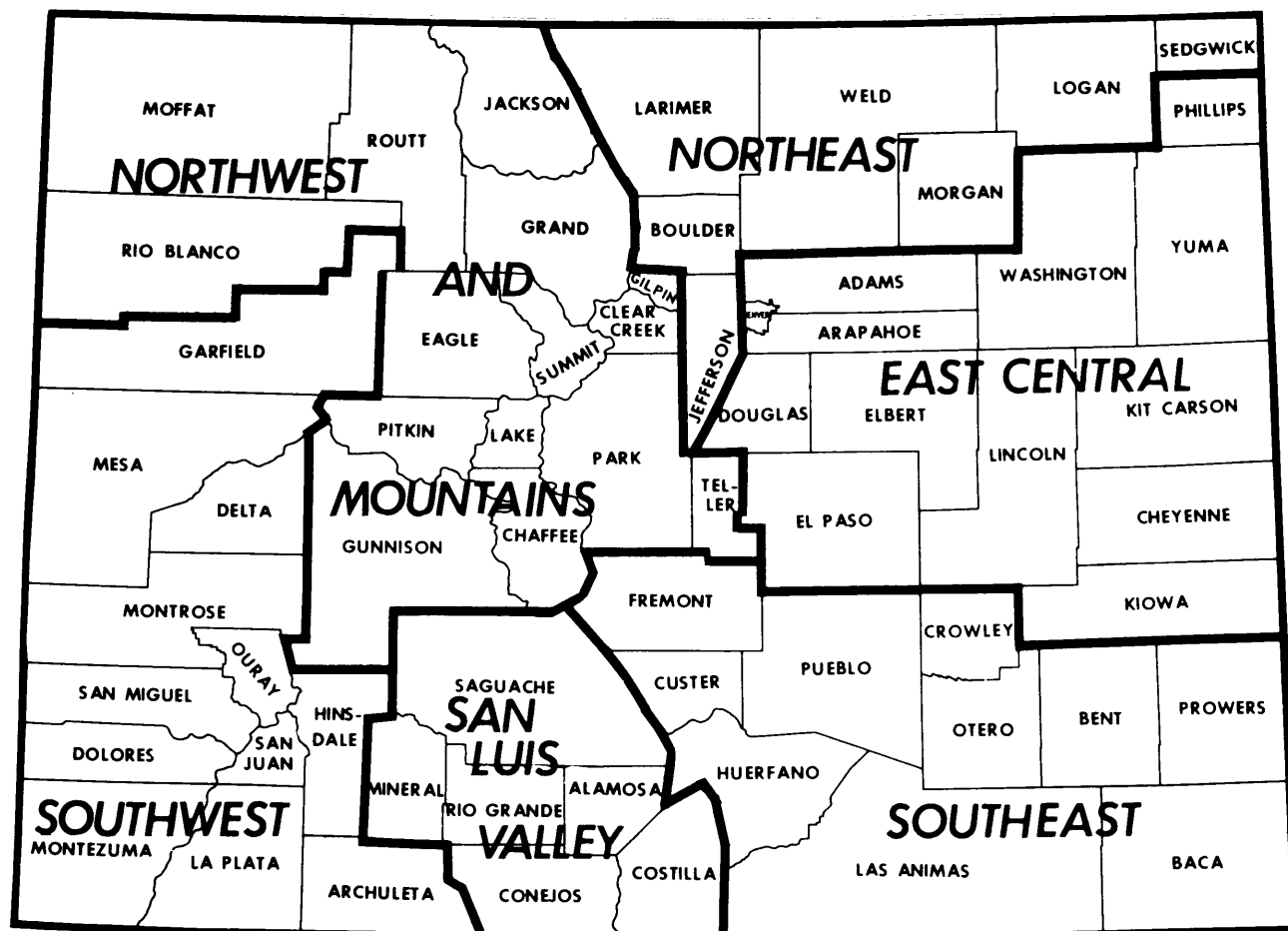


COLORADO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS



ASD by Number: Northwest and Mountains = 10; Northeast = 20; East Central = 60; Southwest = 70;
San Luis Valley = 80; Southeast = 90

COLORADO

The Centennial State, admitted to the Union in 1876, is the eighth largest state in area and has the highest average elevation. The highest point is at Mount Elbert, 14,433 feet above sea level, one of the 53 "fourteeners" rising above 14,000 feet. The lowest elevation is 3,350 feet in extreme eastern Prowers County.

Approximate Land Area: 66.4 Million Acres *
Approximate Cropland Area: 10.9 Million Acres *
Approximate Irrigated Area: 3.2 Million Acres *
Number of Farms and Ranches (1996): 24,500
Land in Farms and Ranches (1996): 32.5 Million Acres
Average Size of Farm and Ranch (1996): 1,327 Acres

Farms by Type *

82%	Individual
11%	Partnership
6%	Corporate
1%	Other

Farms By Tenure *

54%	Full Owners
32%	Part Owners
14%	Tenants

Farms By Class *

59%	Livestock & Poultry
41%	Crops

* 1992 Federal Census of Agriculture

Farm Marketing Receipts (1995):

Livestock & Livestock Products:	\$3,984.5	Million
Field, Fruit, & Vegetable Crops:	2,623.7	Million (65.8% of the total)
	1,360.8	Million (34.2% of the total)

COLORADO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

**1996 Preliminary - 1995 Revised
and
Annual Report 1996-97
Colorado Department of Agriculture**

Issued Cooperatively By

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**



**COLORADO
DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE**

DONALD M. BAY, Administrator

THOMAS A. KOURLIS, Commissioner

Prepared and Published by

COLORADO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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July 1997

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Roy Romer
Governor

Thomas A. Kourlis
Commissioner

Robert G. McLavey
Deputy Commissioner

July, 1997

Dear Friends,

Colorado's 1996 agricultural production was marked with volatility in production and prices. Cattle producers saw prices tumble to their lowest level in ten years. Potato growers saw record low prices by the year end. Wheat producers lost over 25% of their acreage to drought and hail; consequently, some received record high prices in April. Corn, sorghum, barley, hay and lamb producers saw prices reach record high levels during the year.

This 1997 Colorado Agricultural Statistics book gives us the opportunity to make decisions on facts, not perceptions. With such volatile production and prices, the statistics help the agricultural industry and others keep abreast of the delicate balance between supply and demand, and make decisions about production, marketing and investments.

The Colorado Department of Agriculture's Annual Report, summarizing the department's responsibilities, activities and services is published in the back of this book. The Colorado Department of Agriculture is committed to strengthening agriculture's future; providing consumer protection; promoting environmental quality and animal health; and ensuring equity and integrity in business and government.

This publication was made possible by support throughout the agricultural industry. Special thanks to the Colorado Corn Administrative Committee for their contribution.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Kourlis
Commissioner

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